

REMARKS

This following listing of claims is hereby submitted to replace all versions and listings of claims previously submitted in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium accessible to a computing system and encoding a computer program for executing a computer process for tracking logical volumes, the computer process comprising:
 - detecting the creation of a logical volume;
 - querying the logical volume for a non-persistent device name and a unique volume identifier;
 - creating a persistent association between the unique volume identifier and a unique mount manager identifier if there is no existing association, the unique mount manager identifier being persistent and unique across all computers; and
 - linking the unique mount manager identifier to the non-persistent device name.
2. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:
 - detecting the deletion of a logical volume; and
 - disassociating the unique volume identifier from the mount manager identifier for the logical volume.
3. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 2, wherein the computer process further comprises:
 - unlinking the mount manager identifier from the non-persistent device name.
4. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:
 - creating an entry in a persistent data structure containing the unique volume identifier and the mount manager identifier for the logical volume.
5. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 4, wherein the computer process further comprises:
 - creating a non-persistent data structure from the persistent data structure.

6. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 5, wherein an entry in the non-persistent data structure contains the unique volume identifier, the mount manager identifier and the non-persistent device name for the logical volume.

7. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 5, wherein the computer process further comprises:

freeing an entry in the data structure if the logical volume is permanently deleted.

8. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 7, wherein the freeing act comprises:

removing from the data structure a unique volume identifier and persistent mount name associated with the deleted logical volume.

9. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:

supplying, upon request, the unique volume identifier, the mount manager identifier, and the non-persistent device name for the logical volume.

10. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the act of supplying comprises:

supplying the non-persistent device name to a lower level operating system function for accessing the logical volume by the lower level operating system function.

11. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the act of supplying comprises:

supplying the drive letter to a higher level operating system function for accessing the logical volume by the higher level operating system function.

12. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the act of supplying comprises:

supplying the drive letter to an application program for accessing the logical volume by the application program.

13. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:

detecting temporary removal of the logical volume during a boot session; and

in response to detecting temporary removal, unlinking the non-persistent device name from the unique volume identifier and maintaining the persistent association between the unique volume identifier and the unique mount manager identifier.

14. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 13, wherein the computer process further comprises:

detecting re-introduction of the logical volume during the boot session; and
re-linking the non-persistent device name with the unique volume identifier for the logical volume.

15. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 14, wherein the unlinking act comprises:

deleting a symbolic link between the unique mount manager identifier and the non-persistent device name.

16. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:

detecting permanent deletion of the logical volume; and
in response to detecting permanent deletion, unlinking the unique volume identifier from the non-persistent device and disassociating the unique volume identifier from the mount manager identifier.

17. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the linking act comprises:

creating a symbolic link between the mount manager identifier and the non-persistent device name.

18. (New) A computer readable medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the computer process further comprises:

storing the mount manager identifier on the logical volume on a first computer whereby the logical volume maintains the mount manager identifier when moved from the first computer to a second computer; and

querying the logical volume for its mount manager identifier on the second computer whereby the second computer may associate the unique mount manager identifier with the non-persistent device name.